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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- 1. Bulgarian Army units are organized after the Soviet pattern. Every Bulgarian Army at the present time has attached to it an artillery brigade composed of two regiments. Each division has an artillery regiment. The period of service in the Army is three years.
- 2. It is reported again that Lieutenant General Asen Gekov, Chief of the Bulgarian General Staff, has lost the confidence of the Soviets; consequently his dismissal is expected.
- 3. Five training courses for selected Bulgarian Communist officers have been established by Soviet military experts. Some of these officers are sent to the Soviet Union for further training in Soviet military schools. They return as military specialists, and are given key posts in the Bulgarian Army. The top leadership remains in Soviet hands.
- 4. Six important Bulgarian airfields are strongly occupied by Soviet forces: Dobrich, Bozhurishte, Plovdiv, Lovech, Balchik, and Pleven. Three other fields are also reported to be under Soviet occupation: Krumovo, Telish, and Orlino, which is near Dospat, on the Rhodope Plateau.
- 5. A Soviet Engineer Officer Detachment under the command of the Soviet Lieutenant General Tuyan (fnu) is stationed in Bulgaria. General Tuyan personally directs the defensive works along the Bulgarian-Turkish border.
- 6. The border zone along the Turkish, Greek, and Yugoslav frontiers is protected to a depth of 20-30 kilometers by permanent and temporary fortifications erected under Soviet direction. The "Khristo Botev" line along the Turkish border is said to be the strongest. New fortifications are being built and old ones are being reinforced continually in this area.

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7. Traffic controls are steadily being tightened by Soviet authorities. Numerous Soviet controllers sit all the time in the offices of the Soviet-Bulgarian traffic administration in Sofia (among them, agents of the MVD), and keep watch over the principal railway lines. The lines under Soviet military control and operation at the present time are: Varna - Gorna Oryakhovitsa, Sofia - Radomir - Dupnitsa, Svilengrad - Plovdiv, and Sofia - Kyustendil.
8. All important Bulgarian ammunition warehouses, fuel depots, arms depots, and food warehouses are under permanent Soviet supervision.
9. The number of Soviet military and economic experts, controllers, and instructors in Bulgaria is estimated at the present time at 6,000. They cost the Bulgarian state more than 8,000,000 leva per year.
10. All mixed Soviet - Bulgarian companies in Bulgaria are granted special privileges by government decree No. 13. They pay no duties and no taxes and are not under the jurisdiction of Bulgarian officials. The commercial airline company (TABS) is one of those that pay no dues or custom duties.
11. The chief director of the Soviet - Bulgarian mixed company "Gorubso" is a Soviet engineer named Sevchenko (fnu).
12. The shipment of uranium ore from Bulgaria is expedited in every way by the Soviet authorities. The entire output of the Goten Uranium Mines, situated 60 kilometers from Sofia, is sent by rail to the port of Varna and thence by ship to the Soviet Union. A Soviet geological research commission is at present engaged in seeking for uranium deposits near Asenovgrad, in Nerechenska-Banya (sic).
13. The Stalin Electric Works in Sofia are under Soviet management. The director is a Soviet citizen, Ivan Ivanov who has other Soviet engineers under him.
14. The zinc and lead mining works at Zlatograd, Smolyan, Kurdzhali, and Rudozem are being enlarged and modernized under Soviet direction. All the important positions are held by Soviets. The hard coal mining works at Pernik, the copper mining works at Kurdzhali and the coal mining works in the Maritsa Basin are all under Soviet management. Shipping traffic on the Danube is also controlled by the Soviets.
15. By Soviet orders, Bulgaria has to deliver coal and ore to Hungary. Coal is shipped from the mines at Pirin and iron ore from Pazardzhik. The Bulgarian State railways have to provide 130 large cars for this service, free of charge. Forty cars are steadily engaged in delivering coal from Pirin, and two freight trains of 30-36 cars each from Pazardzhik. Shipments are reloaded on barges in the Plovdiv sector. The rail transport is in charge of the Bulgarian railway administration at Plovdiv. The Bulgarian official responsible for the smooth functioning of deliveries is Stoyan Stoyanov, deputy general director of the state railways. This activity was organized by Yordan Vutov, the secretary of the company. On the Hungarian side, the Soviets have made Henrik Csamango, deputy general director of the Hungarian Railways (MAV) responsible. Recently, Hungarian heavy and war industries have frequently received ore from Bulgaria by train. The Bulgarian trains enter Hungary as far as Szolnok.
16. A training course for military engineers has been established at Trn, to train experts in mines and explosives.
17. Component parts for T-34 tanks are fabricated at the Lenin Metal Combine. Mikhayl Dobrev is the political commissar here.

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18. The following volunteer Communist organizations have been united to form DOSO (Dobrovolna Organizatsiya za Sudeystvie na Otbranata; Voluntary Organization for Defense Assistance):

- a. Fighters Against Fascism;
- b. GTO (Gotov za Trud i Otbrana; Ready for Labor and Defense);
- c. The Sports Union; and
- d. The Mechanics' Union.

The head of DOSO is Bulgarian Lieutenant General Ivan Kinov, actually a Soviet citizen and an officer in the Red Army from 1929 to 1944. Members of the organization are trained in marksmanship, in handling modern weapons, in gas defense, and in air defense. There are courses of instruction for parachutists, radio telegraphers, and telephone operators. The organization includes all the Bulgarian youth fit for Army service. There are seven sections. Each section has to engage in some kind of competition in which it can achieve the best results. The first section practices marksmanship under the direction of Bulgarian officers, with hand weapons, hand grenades, mortars, and automatic infantry weapons. The main training center is near the Klisurski Manastir (N 43-11, E 23-00). The second section is trained in aviation, both theoretically and practically. The most capable youths are selected and sent to the Air Officers School at Dolna Mitropoliya (N 43-27, E 24-32). The organization also conducts further flying courses at the Bariste (sic) airfield near Kazanluk. These short courses are only for three to six months; the theoretical training lasts 12 months. The director of training is Bulgarian Air Major Senyanov (fmu), assisted by Captain Aleksandrov (fmu) and Senior Lieutenant Georgiev (fmu). The organization has a large number of women members, who are trained principally for medical service, gas defense, and air defense.

19. There is also an organization known as "Trudov Provinost" in which youths not subject to military service are required to perform labor service, camouflaged as "voluntary." Besides heavy physical labor, the men are given paramilitary training and instruction. The length of service is the same as that for the Army.

20. The commander of the Bulgarian Militia at Gorna Dzhumaya is Colonel Stefan Georgiev.

25X1A 1. [Redacted] Comment: Probably the same as the Trudovaks.

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